## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

First Named Inventor: Naomi OKAMOTO, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned International

PCT/JP2005/023379 Appln. No.:

Attorney Docket No.: 9369-121US (U01-International

Filing Date: 209419C/KK) December 20, 2005

Title: RUBBER COMPOSITION

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1) and (a)(2) listing all patents, publications, applications, and/or other information being submitted for consideration which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Also enclosed are copies of each of the foreign patents and/or non-patent literature documents cited therein but not copies of any U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent application publications in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). However, we will provide copies upon request.

The enclosed references were cited in a International Search Report (copy enclosed) dated February 14, 2006 from the Japanese Patent Office concerning counterpart International Application No. PCT/JP2005/023379.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified

application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi OKAMOTO, et al.

at Reg. No. 51,864 for William W. Schwarze

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 25,918 Direct Dial: 215-965-1270

E-Mail: wschwarze@akingump.com

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street, Suite 2200 Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone No.: 215-965-1200

Fax No.: 215-965-1210

WWS:srn Enclosures